



# Nez Perce County

IDAHO  
DEPT. OF LABOR

September 2020

## Workforce Trends

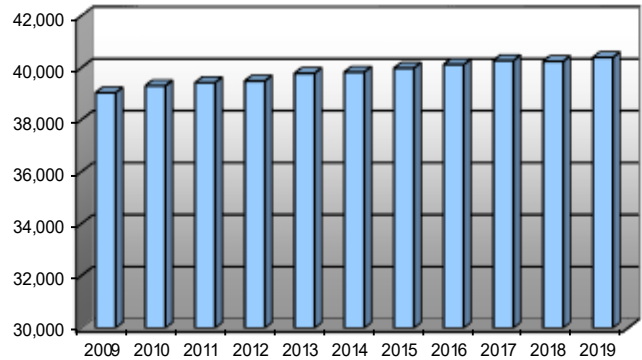
### Population

Nez Perce County's population grew 3 percent from 39,049 in 2009 to 40,408 in 2019, while the U.S. population grew 7 percent and Idaho's population grew 15 percent. Slow job growth reduced migration into the county while an aging population reduced births.

Nez Perce is closely tied to Asotin County, Washington. Many Asotin County residents work in Lewiston. Asotin County grew 5 percent from 21,415 in 2009 to 22,592 in 2019.

The Nez Perce County seat, Lewiston, had a 2019 population of 32,788. The population in Lapwai was 1,137, in Culesac 383, and in Peck 196. Clarkston's population was 7,375.

Population

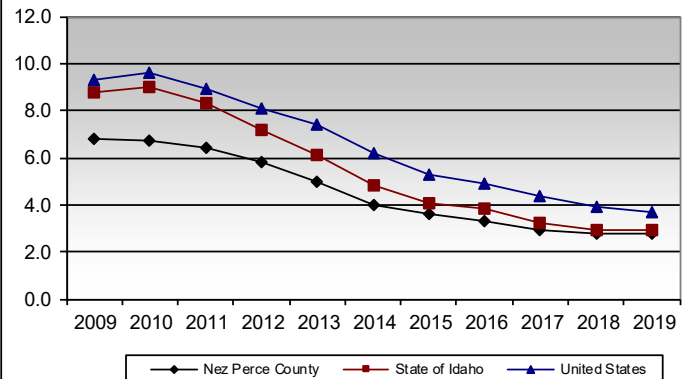


### Labor Force & Employment

Nez Perce County is a regional hub for retail, health care, media, government and transportation. Lewiston is Idaho's only seaport. Barges regularly travel the Snake and Columbia rivers from Lewiston to the ocean. Neighboring counties rely on the Lewiston area for goods and services unavailable locally. In addition, many of their residents work in the Lewiston area.

Lewiston is home to Lewis-Clark State College, a four-year school also offering professional-technical training programs. Its enrollment hovers around 4,600. Nez Perce County's largest employer is Clearwater Paper Inc., whose 1,200 employees make tissue and paperboard. The Vista Outdoors bullet plants in Lewiston employ 1,000 people. St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, the heart of Lewiston's bustling medical community, employs more than 900, while the Cambria Health (Regence BlueShield) center in

Unemployment Rates



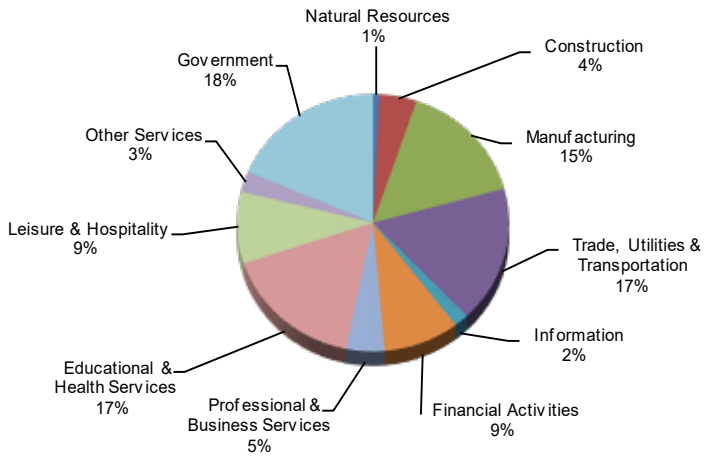
Lewiston employs 520. The Nez Perce Tribe employs 600 at its Lapwai headquarters and medical clinic and another 250 at its casino resort near Lewiston.

The county has experienced exceptional growth in manufacturing. Big boosts in the 10 years include opening and expansion off Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, which employs more than 500. Ammo makers added more than 1,000 jobs after 2010, but then lost 600 after the 2016 presidential election.

Labor Force	Aug 19	Aug 20
Civilian Labor Force	21,020	19,930
Total Employment	20,420	17,589
Unemployed	600	755
% of Labor Force Unemployed	2.9	3.8
State of Idaho % Unemployed	2.9	4.2
U.S. % Unemployed	3.7	8.4

Labor Force	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Civilian Labor Force	18,703	20,088	20,095	19,881	20,223	20,340	20,628	20,902	21,158	20,961	21,057
Unemployment	1,269	1,344	1,278	1,144	1,006	822	750	686	606	588	598
% of Labor Force Unemployed	6.8	6.7	6.4	5.8	5.0	4.0	3.6	3.3	2.9	2.8	2.8
Employment	17,435	18,744	18,817	18,737	19,217	19,518	19,878	20,216	20,552	20,373	20,459

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2019



## Economic Development

Valley Vision is a nonprofit organization fostering the economic development of the Lewis-Clark Valley. Valley Vision concentrates its recruiting efforts on projects that contribute to economic diversification and increased household earnings.

Another major player is the 3,600-member Nez Perce Tribe, headquartered in Lapwai. The tribe also plays a role in development of Clearwater, Idaho and Lewis counties.

### Major Employers

City of Lewiston
Clearwater Paper Inc.
Idaho Forest Group
Lewis-Clark State College
Lewiston Independent School District 1
Nez Perce County
Nez Perce Tribe (including casino resort)
Regence BlueShield (insurance)
Schweitzer Engineering (manufacturing)
St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center
Swift Transportation
Vista Outdoor (ammunition manufacturer)

Lewiston ID-WA MSA Occupational Wages*	Entry Wage	Median Wage
Accountants & Auditors	\$21.71	\$32.60
Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	\$15.37	\$21.19
Carpenters	\$15.94	\$23.38
Cashiers	\$9.25	\$11.56
Computer User Support Specilists	\$14.77	\$20.65
Customer Service Representatives	\$12.76	\$18.94
Dental Assistants	\$14.46	\$17.85
Nursing Assistants	\$12.58	\$14.60
Janitors & Cleaners	\$10.35	\$13.93
Registered Nurses	\$23.94	\$35.95
Retail Salespersons	\$10.03	\$16.35
Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	\$13.03	\$17.09
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$17.88	\$29.45

\* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor website at [lmi.idaho.gov](http://lmi.idaho.gov).

\*\* North Idaho Wages

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 2009, 2018 & 2019	2009		2018		2019	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
<b>Total Covered Wages</b>	20,194	\$33,857	20,997	\$41,629	20,966	\$42,715
<b>Agriculture</b>	184	\$42,462	176	\$53,754	178	\$53,291
<b>Mining</b>	84	\$57,262	95	\$72,071	103	\$71,695
<b>Construction</b>	703	\$37,875	911	\$43,606	962	\$45,790
<b>Manufacturing</b>	2,597	\$48,971	3,645	\$58,133	3,373	\$60,868
<b>Trade, Utilities and Transportation</b>	4,208	\$28,508	3,727	\$36,341	3,723	\$36,681
<b>Information</b>	346	\$28,483	382	\$38,077	377	\$39,803
<b>Financial Activities</b>	1,408	\$39,472	1,196	\$57,627	1,196	\$59,884
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	1,185	\$44,328	1,002	\$35,239	989	\$35,944
<b>Educational and Health Services</b>	3,400	\$32,875	3,485	\$39,988	3,637	\$41,439
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	1,762	\$12,240	1,909	\$16,191	1,955	\$16,657
<b>Other Services</b>	522	\$20,692	571	\$25,717	571	\$26,696
<b>Government</b>	3,796	\$35,636	3,900	\$42,839	3,902	\$44,098

Per Capita Income	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Nez Perce County</b>	\$33,534	\$34,669	\$35,465	\$36,364	\$37,153	\$38,365	\$40,002	\$40,978	\$42,907	\$44,397
<b>State of Idaho</b>	\$31,186	\$31,957	\$33,515	\$35,188	\$36,200	\$37,896	\$39,857	\$40,670	\$42,094	\$43,901
<b>United States</b>	\$39,284	\$40,546	\$42,735	\$44,599	\$44,851	\$47,058	\$48,978	\$49,870	\$51,885	\$54,446

Information provided by Bureau of Economic Analysis